

The Parkinson's Foundation Hospital Care Initiative

Featured Implementation Projects:

Hackensack University Medical Center

Hooman Azmi, MD, FAANS outlined the work that has been done at Hackensack University Medical Center by utilizing the Joint Commission Parkinson's disease specific Certification.

"We are aligning the protocol with the Joint Commission platform which is a very, very effective platform for identifying the measures that are meaningful and then following those measures and making sure there is a plan to improve." – Hooman Azmi, MD, FAANS



Key first steps to implementing Parkinson's Specific Protocols in an acute care hospital:

- Establish a way to identify all Parkinson's patients within the chart and train staff to understand what it means when a patient is flagged for Parkinson's
- Address the availability of medications on formulary with pharmacy
- Utilize the Electronic Hospital Record (EPIC in their case) to allow for the custom input of each Parkinson's medication
- Conduct widespread and ongoing education around the critical importance of medication timing for Parkinson's patients

Kansas Rehabilitation Hospital

Christian Benedict, DPT outlined the approach that Rehabilitation Hospitals should take based on his experience at Kansas Rehabilitation Hospital.

"Every Rehab Hospital should understand the importance of timing of delivery of PD medications, but that one-hour window that our initial Joint Commission surveyor told us was acceptable for most places shouldn't be good enough." – Christian Benedict, DPT



Key Elements to Parkinson's care in a Rehabilitation hospital include:

- PD Specific evaluations is completed by a Physical Therapist, Occupational Therapist, and if indicated, Speech Language Pathologist and Nutritionist/dietician.
- Monthly interdisciplinary team meetings
- Patient education that measures whether they are able to teach back information on Parkinson's and on community referrals



Featured Implementation Projects:

University of Rochester Medical Center

Katherine Amodeo, MD & Amy Chesire, LCSW-R, MSG shared their two-pronged approach to improving hospitalization outcomes through community conversations and hospital engagement at the University of Rochester.

One care partner from their community roundtables shared:

"I felt like I knew so much more about my husband's PD and it was hard to advocate for his medication needs, in particular. I knew what medications he should not take and yet they wanted to prescribe it and didn't necessarily want to listen to me. I felt very angry and frustrated."



Key Elements to Partnerships between movement disorder clinics and their affiliated hospitals:

- Ongoing conversations with the Parkinson's community regarding their lived experiences in specific community hospitals
- Addressing issues with what medications are not on formulary
- Tracking the prescription of Haldol for a month showed hospital leaders that the warnings were necessary
- Hospital team education through the Parkinson's Foundation Team Training

Interested in Partnering?

As we move forward with the Hospital Care Initiative, the Parkinson's Foundation invites and encourages all stakeholders in the Parkinson's community to join us in driving change that will create lasting impact and better lives for people with Parkinson's disease. Access the tools and resources we've created and learn more about the many ways the Parkinson's Foundation can support the work you and your institution are doing to improve hospital care for people with Parkinson's at [Parkinson.org/HospitalCare](https://www.parkinson.org/HospitalCare).